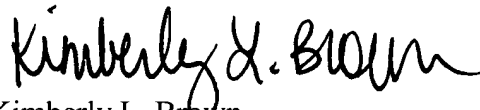


REMARKS

Applicant is amending the claims to remove multiple dependencies and to conform to U.S. patent law practices. No new matter has been added as a result of the amendment to the claims. A check in the amount of \$500 is enclosed to cover the basic filing fees for the subject patent application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 50-0259 (069918.007).

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly L. Brown
Reg. No. 48,698
James E. Bradley
Reg. No. 27,536
Attorney for Applicants

Date: 7/16/04
BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 61389
Houston, Texas 77208-1389
Tel: 713-221-3301
Fax: 713-222-3287